

made thereto without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as set forth in the hereafter appended claims.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A method for aligning packet loss priority information for overload control
of a data-packet-switching communications device wherein data packets and
respectively allocated packet loss priority information are transmitted to the
communications device and buffered in relation to a specific connection. The
packet loss priority information is then read from the buffered data packets and
modified according to the connection type or the application-specific data traffic
10 type. After the data packet has been switched in the communications device, the
original packet loss priority information which was switched with the data packets
is re-inserted into the corresponding data packet.

In the claims:

15 On page 10, cancel line 1, and substitute the following left-hand justified
heading therefor:

We Claim as Our Invention:

Please cancel claims 1-7, without prejudice, and substitute the following
claims therefor:

20 8. A method for aligning packet loss priority information for overload
control of a communications device that switches data packets, the method
comprising the steps of:

transferring and buffering in a memory area, via the communications
device, the data packets and respectively allocated loss priority information in
relation to a specific connection;

25 reading the packet loss priority information from the buffered data packets;
modifying the packet loss priority information of the buffered data packet
depending on at least one of the connection type and application-specific data
traffic type; and

30 restoring, after a data packet has been switched in the communications
device, the original packet loss priority information in the corresponding data
packet.

35 9. A method for aligning packet loss priority information for overload
control of a communications device as claimed in claim 8, the method further
comprising the steps of:

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recording the packet loss priority information read from the buffered data packet in an additional communications-device-specific data packet header;
attaching the additional data packet header to the buffered data packet; and
switching the buffered data packet, including the attached additional data
5 packet header, in the communications device.

10. A method for aligning packet loss priority information for overload control of a communications device as claimed in claim 8, the method further comprising the step of:

10 allocating different loss priorities to the respective data packet by the packet loss priority information.

11. A method for aligning packet loss priority information for overload control of a communications device as claimed in claim 8, the method further
15 comprising the step of:

modifying the respective data packets of a group of data packets with packet loss priority information depending on at least one of the connection type and the application-specific data traffic type.

20 12. A method for aligning packet loss priority information for overload control of a communications device as claimed in claim 9, the method further comprising the step of:

removing the additional communications-device-specific data packet header attached to the data packet after a data packet has been switched in the
25 communications device.

13. A method for aligning packet loss priority information for overload control of a communications device as claimed in claim 8, wherein, in cell-switching communications devices, the packet loss priority information is cell loss
30 priority information.